

Spinning Around

By BARNEY GLAZER

It isn't a new album but it will be new when other albums have turned old with use and abuse. "Ritual of the Savage (LeSacre du Sauvage)" by Les Baxter and orchestra is original music by Baxter. It was conceived by blending his creative ideas with ritualistic melodies and seductive rhythms of the natives. It is a tone poem of the sound and struggle of the jungle.

"The Art of Jazz Piano" is an Epic album of considerable note. Here we find Art Tatum playing "Tea for Two," "Sophisticated Lady," and "Tiger Rag," recorded in 1933. Then James P. Johnson plays "Riffs," "Feelin' Blue," and "After Tonight," recorded in 1929 and 1939. Earl Hines brings us "Down Among the Sheltering Palms" (1932) and "A Monday Date" and "I Ain't Got Nobody" (1928).

In the same Epic album, Joe Sullivan brings us the later piano vintage. He plays "Can't We Get Together," "There'll Come a Time When You'll Need Me" and "Breezin'" (1952). A truly great album of truly great pianists!

"Rock Pretty Baby" is a Decca album bringing you music from the sound track of the film of the same name, starring Sal Mineo, John Saxon and Luana Patten. This music is for and by young people, as played by Jimmy Daley and the Ding-a-Lings. The melodies are lively, gay, and happy in mood. If you're old in years, this is still for you if you're young in heart.

The Theater Guild musical production of "Tom Sawyer," as originally presented on the U. S. Steel Hour, is now on Decca Records albums. The original cast is featured: John Sharpe as Tom Sawyer, Benny Gatteys as Becky Thatcher, Jimmy Boyd as Huckleberry Finn, Rose Bampton as Aunt Polly. Listen to this memorable story and notice how there still beats within you the heart of the Eternal Boy.

Capital's best pop singles of the week include... Don Robertson's magnificent piano styl-

Williams of Michigan to Speak in L.A.

Governor G. Mennen Williams of Michigan, re-elected by a wide margin last November, is to be in Los Angeles Feb. 8 for a dinner at the Statler Hotel commemorating the birthday of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In addition to observing the birthday of the 32nd President, the dinner inaugurates a policy of honoring local Democratic clubs as charters are renewed annually.

Selection of Governor Williams as the speaker is in line with the dual purpose of the occasion. It was a large volunteer organization in Michigan similar to that organized in California during the last four years which returned Williams to the governor's office for a fifth term.

The dinner Feb. 8 marks the first official recognition of the many amateur political organizations devoted to the Democratic cause in California.

Oehlman Selected for Flower Show Committee

Richard Oehlman, of Ladera Garden Shop, 24234 Crenshaw Blvd., representing the Centennial chapter of the nurserymen's association, has been appointed to the Nurserymen's Committee of the 1957 California International Flower Show, according to Committee Chairman Jack M. Story.

The Flower Show, now in its eighth annual presentation, will be held March 16 through 24 at Hollywood Park, Inglewood.

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SUN. • MON. • TUES.
A Public Enemy Who Almost Named His Own President
John Payne in
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Robert Wagner in
"A Kiss Before Dying"

ings on "Rockaway" and "Fantasy" . . . Ann Leonardo's breezy debut on Capitol singing "The Law of Attraction" . . . Les Baxter's ever-gorgeous music, this time playing "A Woman's Devotion" and "The Clown on the Eiffel Tower."

Crystalette has a big one with Larry Bodas singing "Cocktail Tango."

Mercury's best pop singles of the week are: Tony Smith and his Aristocrats with a swinging instrumental, "Wacker Drive" . . . Nick Noble with a clever Calypso, "No One Sweeter Than You," and Joy Layne, a 15-year-old Chicago girl, who is sensational, singing "Your Wild Heart."

The King label has some goodies in Little Willie John singing "A Little Bit of Loving" . . . The Teardrops' inspiring vocals of "My Inspiration" . . . Joe Perkins and the Rookies with a winner in "Ain't You Glad Nature Did It?" . . . and Big John Greer with a topper instrumental in "Midnight Ramble."

On De Luxe, you'll dig these: Danny Cobb's terrific vocals on "Hey, Mr. Warden" . . . and Sandy Reed's novel vocals on "Watching the Door."

More of EmArcy-Mercury "Giants of Jazz" series have hit the hi-fidelity market and what a superb treat they are to your reviewer's wiggling ears!

Volume III consists of two albums, Part I and II, and is titled "Reeds." The first part features: Lester Young, James

Moody, Paul Quinichette, Ben Webster, Coleman Hawkins, and Willie Smith.

In this first part, you meet four of the outstanding tenor sax men as well as two leading alto stars. Tunes include: Just Me, "Feelin' Low," "Ran-dall's Island," "King's Riff," "The Way You Look Tonight," and others.

In the second part of "Reeds," the artists are: Paul Quinichette, Coleman Hawkins, Willie Smith, Lester Young and Ben Webster. I doubt if you'll ever collect a more imposing assemblage of reed virtuosi under one album cover.

They play: "Afternoon of a Basie-ite," "Sometimes I'm Happy," "Rose of Birdland," "Beyond the Blue Horizon," "September in the Rain," "Pouting," "On the Sunny Side of the Street," "Iron Hat" and others.

Now we turn to Volume IV of the "Giants of Jazz" series. This one is titled "Folk Blues," and features Josh White and Big Bill Broonzy, two artists inspired and inspiring.

The American Negro blues receive the full treatment in this album by these two singers who have their roots in the South. Although both draw their material from similar geographic sources, there is an unmistakable contrast in their styles.

Josh White sings: "Strange Fruit," "Evil Hearted Man," "Southern Exposure," and others. Big Bill Broonzy sings: "Bill Bailey," "Blue Tail Fly," "Back Water Blues," "Trouble in Mind," and others.

To mark your own measure of contrast, each sings "John Henry."

Jazz," we have Muggsy Spanier and Phil Napoleon bringing us "Dixieland." In this field, Dixieland inspiration is the word that separates the men from the boys and it's easy picking a Dixieland veteran from a pseudo-Dixieland revivalist.

Muggsy, of course, dates back to 1924 when he made his disc debut with a group called the Bucktown Five. Napoleon came to fame as leader of the original Memphis Five in the early 1920's.

Heard are: "Lazy Piano Man," "Dixie Flyer," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "Caution Blues," "Alabama Jubilee," "That's a Plenty," "Bugle Call Rag," and others.

Now to other labels . . . Bunny Bishop sings "Helpless" for Crystalette and Bunny is far from helpless when it comes to putting the hit in a hit song . . . Man, but you

ain't heard nothin' yet until you listen to Sam (The Man) Taylor play MGM's "Congo Mombo."

I especially like John Gary's theme and vocals on MGM's "Pray Today" . . . There's a listening treat in Helene De Lys' "I Couldn't Care Less" for MGM . . . Eldorado Records swear that Jo-Ann Campbell will make the first 10 with her vocals on "Come On Baby."

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